

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, after the title of the invention and before the first line, please insert the following:

--This application is a continuation application of Application No. 09/414,558, filed on October 8, 1999, pending.--

At page 1, line 13, amend the heading as follows:

~~Background Art~~ Background

At page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 9 and ending at line 13 as follows:

Novelty searches conducted after the earliest priority date of ~~this~~ the present application disclosed International Patent Application No. PCT/FR95/00827 published in French under International Patent Publication No. WO 95/35534. An English language translation of the specification is conveniently available as Australian Patent ~~Application No. 28896/95~~ Publication No. AU-A-28896/95. That specification discloses a card reading device (also referred to as a control housing) intended for the remote control of equipment, for example. The control housing consisted of a transparent key pad arranged to overlie a smart card/memory card having indicia regularly arranged on the surface of the card at positions corresponding to the keys on the keypad.

At page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 14 and ending at line 19 as follows:

Thus a television manufacturer, for example, could manufacture such a smart card [3] and supply ~~same~~ the smart card together with the control housing [1] and a television. Then the customer would be able to utilise the control housing [1] in conjunction with the smart card [3] as a remote control device for the television. In this way the television manufacturer, ~~the radio manufacturer, etc~~ would not need to manufacture a specific remote control device for their product but could utilise ~~the housing~~ + a generic card reading device in conjunction with their specific smart card [3].

At page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 20 and ending at line 24 as follows:

However, this concept is limiting because the control data in the smart card [3] for the machine to be controlled comes from the machine manufacturer and thus is limited in its application. ~~The present invention seeks to enable either third parties or the end user to customise the data stored in, or accessed by, the card so as to vastly increase the utility of the expanded system.~~

At page 2, please delete the paragraph beginning at line 25 and ending at line 29.

At page 3, please delete the following paragraph beginning at line 1 and ending at line 6 as follows:

At page 3, please delete the following paragraph beginning at line 7 and ending at line 13 as follows:

At page 6, please amend line 26 as follows:

Fig. 26 is a perspective view of a ~~prior-art~~ smart card;

At page 16, please add the following three paragraphs before the paragraph beginning at line 25:

There is a problem which arises in relation to smart cards in that there is no "keyboard feedback" to the user. With a conventional keyboard, the movement of the pressed key provides the user with a generally reliable indication that the key has been effectively pressed. However, with a touch sensitive screen or capacitive sensing, there is no equivalent movement.

Further, particularly in relation to smart cards where the user stimulated region operates an interface procedure, two additional problems arise. The first of these is that no change in a screen display, for example, may occur immediately following the successful "pressing" of an icon or region through a touch sensitive panel. This is because a computer processor may well be loading and/or executing instructions - giving rise to a substantial delay.

Secondly, pressing the same icon or region twice in succession often leads to a further, and different, set Of instructions being issued. Thus, if the user should press the touch sensitive panel twice in error, because the user (erroneously) thinks the first press was ineffective, then the consequences are far more damaging then during, say, typing,

where the result is merely a given character being repeated twice. Particularly during electronic funds transfer, purchasing transactions, etc., every effort should be made to prevent the unintended set of second instructions beings issued in error.

At page 23, please delete line 20 as follows:

~~present invention;~~

At page 23, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 21 and ending at line 28 as follows:

As seen in Fig. 26, a ~~prior-art~~ smart card 501 is provided with an upper surface. Marked on the upper surface 502 are various boundaries 503 which indicate the locations of operations able to be performed by the smart card 501 and indicia 504 in the form of text which indicates the function of each of the various operations. The boundaries 503 and indicia 504 are created by printing in a conventional manner. In the particular smart card illustrated in Fig. 26 there are five functions as follows: PAUSE 506, STOP 507, END 508, FAST FORWARD 509 and START 510.